

DISPATCHCLASSIFICATION
SECRET

PROCESSING

PRO-
POSED

ACTION

ACCOM-
PLISHED

TO

Chief of Station, []

INFO.

copy:

Chief of Station, []

FROM

Chief, Benefits and Services Division

MARKED FOR INDEXING

NO INDEXING REQUIRED

ONLY QUALIFIED
HEADQUARTERS DESK
CAN JUDGE INDEXING

ABSTRACT

MICROFILM

SUBJECT

Handling of Death Cases

ACTION REQUIRED - REFERENCES

- (a) []
 (b) []
 (c) []
 (d) []
 (e) []
 (f) []
 (g) []

1. Reference (a) asks why headquarters did not notify the [] family immediately of the death of []. The fact is that notification was almost immediate, as related below, a fact which was reported to you in reference (c).

2. Reference (b), the initial notification of this tragic death, was received in the late evening of 27 May 1963. It is a long standing principle of our handling of death cases that notification to next of kin be made by a personal visit wherever possible. To accomplish this, we have been able to call upon the [] in almost every case over the years, been able to accomplish notification in that manner. Consequently, upon receipt of reference (b), our first reaction was to identify immediately whether or not the capability existed to make notification in person. Unfortunately, there was no one in the area of residence of the persons to be notified who could make a personal visit that evening; therefore, we were fully prepared, despite our normal reluctance to do so, to notify the individuals specified in paragraph 2 of reference (b) by telephone. Since these individuals were not identified in the cable as to relationship to [] and whether or not they were witting of KUBARK affiliation, some time was spent that same evening in securing this information, information which should have been supplied by the station in the same cable. Upon learning that both of these individuals were elderly, and not knowing anything about their personal and medical situation, it was our judgment, concurred in by KUCLUB and [] not to make telephone notification late that evening and we arranged for a personal visit the

(Continued)

DATE TYPED

DATE DISPATCHED

24 June 1963

3 JUL 1963

CROSS REFERENCE TO

DISPATCH SYMBOL AND NUMBER

HEA []

Distribution:

3 - []

1 - []

- 1 - FE Division
 1 - D/Pers
 1 - C/BSD
 1 - BCB Crash File
 ✓ - BCB

CLASSIFICATION

SECRET

ORIGINATING

OFFICE

OP/BSD

COORDINATING

OFFICE SYMBOL

DATE

OFFICER'S NAME

RELEASING

OFFICE SYMBOL

DATE

OFFICER'S SIGNATURE

FE/Pers

DISPATCH

CONTINUATION OF
DISPATCH

CLASSIFICATION

DISPATCH SYMBOL AND NUMBER

S E C R E T

25X1A

25X1A next morning. We felt that we should not run the risk of creating some medical crisis by telephonically informing a relative of the death of the son and assumed that [] himself would have preferred a notification in person rather than by telephone. When this was discussed with [] here at 25X1A headquarters, he expressed complete agreement with the decision notwithstanding the fact a newspaper reporter broke the news to the family at 2 o'clock in the morning of the day we made official and personal notification.

3. Reference (e) obviously misled you to think that we had not yet made a notification as initially requested. We wish to point out, however, that paragraph 3 of reference (e) was specifically addressed to our questions in paragraphs 1 and 2 of that cable concerning the itinerary for the family and travel data on the remains because we had been in contact with the [] family and had 25X1A promised to keep them informed of the movement of both [] and his 25X1A remains.

4. For your guidance in future cases, it is suggested that the first cable notification of death of an employee or dependent supply the following information whenever this is available:

- a. Full name of the decedent. If a dependent, the full name of employee parent.
- b. Complete details of the circumstances of death. This is often a critical point in our contact with next of kin. When we have little information concerning details of the death, we are often put in an embarrassing and emotional situation with the next of kin. The station can be assured that headquarters will use discretion in selecting portions of information that should or should not be reported to the next of kin.
- c. Full name and relationship to the employee of the next of kin to be notified in this country. Included should be a statement as to whether or not they are witting of the employee's true organization. Also, if known, any personal circumstances of the next of kin should be supplied in this first cable, such as age, emotional stability, illnesses, etc. Such preliminary information will not only ease our concern about notifying the next of kin, but will often expedite this notification.
- d. As soon as possible, information as to the plans of the family for return to this country if that is contemplated.
- e. Whenever known and as soon as possible, travel data concerning the return of the remains.

25X1A 5. For [] References provided details concerning the transshipment of the remains from [] to the final destination. In 25X1A those cables concern was expressed about whether or not arrangements for air transshipment could be made. While we appreciate all of this extra effort by the station to insure the safe and timely movement of remains, it was all unnecessary— for this reason: This office, from the date of notification of the death of an employee or dependent [] is in immediate touch with the specific [] and its mortuary specialists and maintains constant liaison with them. When remains are coming back to this country through military channels, it is only enough for the station to insure timely movement to this country with as much advance notice to us as possible. From that point forward, this office assumes the full responsibility for transshipment

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FORM
5-60
(40)

53a

USE PREVIOUS EDITION.

CLASSIFICATION

S E C R E T

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PAGE NO.

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CONTINUATION OF
DISPATCH

CLASSIFICATION

DISPATCH SYMBOL AND NUMBER

S E C R E T

25X1A

25X1A

25X1A

of the remains to the final destination. Using the [] case as an example, it was not necessary for []

[] evied our requirements on him for air shipment of the remains from [] and for timely notice STAT from San Francisco to the mortician and to the family. We were at the same time in direct contact with [] and kept them informed of the movement of the remains.

25X1A

Distribution:

3 - []
1 - []

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 5-15-00 BY 23

FORM 53a
5-60
(40)

USE PREVIOUS EDITION.

CLASSIFICATION
S E C R E T
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